

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

The present Amendment is being submitted prior to the issuance of a first Office Action in the present application.

With this Amendment, Applicant has revised the claims in light of prior art cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed simultaneously herewith.

Favorable action on the present application is respectfully requested.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on June 30, 2004:

Klaus P. Stoffel

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of applicant, assignee or  
Registered Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

June 30, 2004

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,

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Klaus P. Stoffel

Registration No.: 31,668

OSTROLENK, FABER, GERB & SOFFEN, LLP

1180 Avenue of the Americas

New York, New York 10036-8403

Telephone: (212) 382-0700

KPS:sks